

occurred before during the 20 years I have run a trap here. I think the *unipuncta* is the first Gloucestershire record. Other rare (or in the case of *Plusia orichalcea* F.) very rare migrants occurred during the same few nights at other traps in the county. — R. P. DEMUTH, Watercombe House, Oakridge, Gloucestershire.

RHODOMETRA SACRARIA (L.) IN SHEFFIELD. — On the 11th October during the mild period I took a single specimen of The Vestal in my m.v. trap at Broomhill in Sheffield. It was in fresh condition, male and had brown markings. — S. P. GARLAND, 8 Roslin Road, Sheffield S10 1FA, Yorks.

HELICOVERPA ARMIGERA (HBN.) AND OTHER MIGRANTS IN OXFORDSHIRE IN 1978. — 1978, until recently, has been an uninteresting year for recording migrants. However, starting in the second week of October large numbers of individuals appeared in my trap at Steeple Barton, Oxfordshire. On the night of the 14th, I had over 100 specimens of *Phlogophora meticulosa* (L.), with 50 on the 13th and since that date until today (November 1st) averaging a dozen per night. On the 13th October I found a ♂ *Helicoverpa armigera* (Hbn.) which was somewhat "dusky". Again on 15th I found a similar specimen in my trap along with *Agrotis ipsilon* (Hufn.) and *Peridroma saucia* (Hbn.). *Vanessa atalanta* (L.) occurred here in small numbers at the beginning of October but we have seen none since. The normal local indigenes have occurred in very small numbers this year, and in particular elm feeding species are down in numbers although a few *Agrochola circellaris* (Hufn.) have occurred. — BERNARD KETTLEWELL, Genetics Unit, Dept. of Zoology, University of Oxford.

HELICOVERPA ARMIGERA (HBN.): SCARCE BORDERED STRAW. — At about 22.30 on 14th October 1978, I took a specimen of this moth off a street light at the back of my house. It was identified for me by Paul Sokoloff and Ian Watkinson. The night of its capture was very foggy. — D. DEY, 9 Monmouth Close, Rainham, Gillingham, Kent.

THE FEATHERED RANUNCULUS: EUMICHTIS LICHENEA HBN. AND BLAIR'S SHOULDER-KNOT: LITHOPHANE LEAUTIERI BOIS. IN NORTH-EAST KENT. — *Eumichtis lichenea* was for the period mid-September to early October one of the most common moths to light and on ivy bloom here. The species is of course of coastal distribution, but it is more normally associated with these localities in the South and West, and it was therefore of interest to see it in such numbers two or three miles inland from the North Kent coast. Other records of note were of *Lithophane leautieri* Bois., taken in the garden trap on the night of 2nd/3rd October (male), and again on opening the trap on the morning of 12th October (female). There are several large *Cupressus* trees in the village and it is likely, knowing the rapid eastward movement of this species through southern England over the last few years, that it is breeding this far east in Kent. — Dr. I. A. WATKINSON, 148 The Street, Boughton-under-Blean, Faversham, Kent.